

## **PRESS RELEASE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**March 15, 2004**

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# **MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO HAULING 65 ILLEGAL ALIENS IN TRACTOR TRAILER**

**PHOENIX, ARIZONA** -- The United States Attorney's Office for the District of Arizona announced that on March 15, 2004, Jose Guadalupe Chairez-Jauregui, D O B 05/12/68, pled guilty to one count of Transporting Illegal Aliens for profit. On January 20, 2004, a Freightliner tractor trailer that Chairez was driving was stopped at a Border Patrol checkpoint near Yuma, Arizona. After a canine conducting a routine sniff around the trailer alerted on it, Chairez consented to a search of the trailer. When Border Patrol agents removed pallets that were stacked in the back of the trailer, they discovered 65 illegal aliens, including 20 females and 11 juveniles, hiding behind the pallets. Chairez admitted to knowingly transporting the aliens for a fee of \$1,600. "This office remains committed to vigorously prosecuting alien smugglers and those who put illegal aliens' lives at risk to the fullest extent of the law," said Paul Charlton, United States Attorney for the District of Arizona.

Sentencing is set for May 24, 2004 with the Honorable Susan R. Bolton, United States District Court Judge for the District of Arizona. The maximum penalty for this crime is 10 years in prison and/or a fine of \$250,000.

(MORE)

The investigation is being handled by the Bureau of Customs and Border Protection. The prosecution is being handled by Mary Beth Phillips, Assistant United States Attorney, District of Arizona, Phoenix, Arizona.

CASE NUMBER: CR-04-0147-PHX-SRB  
RELEASE NUMBER: 2004-056